GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:298
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012
HAJ PILGRIMAGE
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chosen Haj pilgrims for this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the parameters adopted therefor; and

(d) the funds allocated for this purpose, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) Not yet. However, Haj application forms have been made available to intending pilgrims through State/ Union Territory Haj Committee w.e.f. 1 March 2012.

(c) Haj Committee of India has divided the pilgrims into two categories:-

1) Reserved Category: Pilgrims above the age of 70 years along with their companion are entitled to make Haj Applications under this category. Besides, the pilgrims who have applied consecutively since last three years but could not get selected are also entitled to apply under Reserved Category.

2) General Category: All other intending pilgrims applying for haj throughout the country under the auspices of Haj Committee of India shall be registered under General Category. Computerised Qurrah (draw of lots) shall be conducted in the State/U.Ts. whether number of Haj Applications received will be in excess of their allotted quota after deducting Reserved Category pilgrims.

(d) No funds are allocated for this purpose by Government of India.